

1139 2 3
1139 4
6

A
P R O P O S A L
F O R

Raising TIMBER,
AND FOR
Effectually Supporting the POOR
in *Great Britain.*

To which is added,
A SUPPLEMENT
Relating to a
NATIONAL MILITIA.

By NICHOLAS TURNER, of Bignor
Park in *Suffex, Esq;*

In Two PARTS.

"The Strength of the Nation, the future Interest of private Families,
"and the Desire that Men of Rank and Fortune have of transmitting
"their Names as well as Estates to their Descendants, all plead for this
"Improvement of raising Oaks, which is the surest Method to lay a
"Foundation for preserving to the latest Age, that Superiority of Naval
"Power, which under Providence, is the Guardian of the Religion,
"Liberties, Honour, Commerce, and Wealth of *Great Britain.*"

Observations on Mr. Fauquier's Essay, pag. 63 and 64.

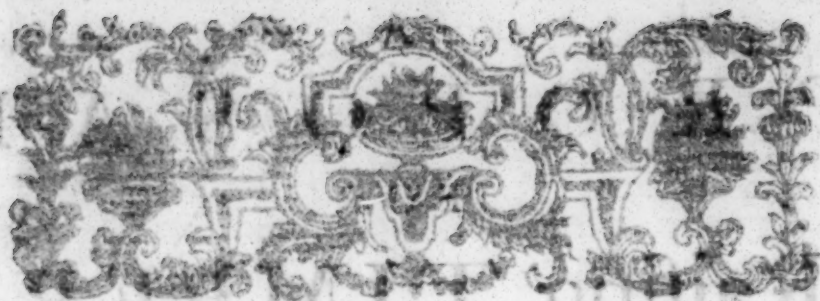
*Much Food is in the Tillage of the Poor, but there is that is destroyed for want
of Judgment.* Proverbs xiii. verse 23.

L O N D O N :

Printed by EDWARD OWEN, in *Holborn*;
And Sold by THOMAS TRYE, near *Gray's-Inn Gate.*

MDCCCLVII.

[Price ONE SHILLING and SIX-PENCE.]



P R E F A C E

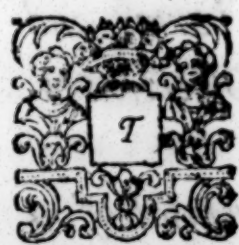
Timber is placed on all Hands
to be of that high Value, and of
that great Use in almost all the
important Articles of Life, that it
particularly requires our utmost Attention to
improve and protect it in this Kingdom, for its
security and present Happiness, and our future
Security do immediately depend on it.

Timber of some sort or another grows in most
Countries in England, either particularly in
which County I have not been in Oak, except
only the ancient ⁴⁰ ~~And~~ ⁶ ~~Woods~~ ²⁸ ~~Woods~~ ¹⁶² ~~Woods~~
called the Wild, where formerly it was a ~~Nu~~
source, but it is not so now, for the good Timber
in few Hands, and in few ~~is not~~ ^{is not} ~~now~~
being (generally) ~~to that now~~ ^{to that now} ~~is not~~
it is for the most part ~~now~~ ^{now} ~~is not~~
and if some Method was not immediately put





P R E F A C E.



*T*IMBER is allowed on all Hands to be of that high Value, and of that great Use in almost all the important Articles of Life, that it particularly requires our utmost Attention to improve and increase it in this Kingdom; for it is certain, our present Happiness, and our future Security, do immediately depend on it.

Timber of some sort or another grows in most Counties in England. Suffex particularly (in which County I live) did abound in Oak, especially the ancient Anderida or Weald, now called the Wild, where formerly it was a Nuisance; but it is not so now, for the good Timber is in few Hands, and being in Parks is not (as being Ornamental) likely to be cut; so that now it is forty per Cent. dearer than twenty Years ago; and if some Method is not immediately put

in Force by the Legislature to raise Timber, it will be a very dear Commodity, and we shall be forced to build our Ships of foreign Materials, which will be neither so good, so cheap, or so beneficial to this Nation, as our own Growth. Therefore I have proposed a Method (though not so good as may be thought of by others) for that Purpose; a Method that will do no harm, and what no one can have any reasonable Objection to.

The Second Part is an humble Proposal of a Scheme for the Benefit of the real Poor. I am sensible it will have many Objections; for Whipping, Transportation, and Death, are horrid Sounds in the Ears of Englishmen.

It will be said, it is no Crime to be poor; to which I agree; but insist it is a Crime to be idle, which the Poor in the Southern Parts of England are; and I have observed more so where there has been large Charities, as at Guildford, where they have in different Legacies and Gifts five hundred Pounds yearly for the Poor; but (if I am informed right) the Poor Tax is, or has been, in the Parish of St. Mary's, no less than four Shillings and Nine-pence in the Pound;

Pound; and which, I am confident, would not be at most above one Shilling and Six-pence, if proper Severity was used, and we may make use of Palliatives and temporary Expedients for a Time, but must at last come to dangerous Remedies to the dangerous Distempers, Idleness and Dissoluteness.

It will be said, we have worthy Magistrates and Justices to put the Laws in Execution without Fee or Reward; so my Scheme will be called a Job, and intended for Lucre.

To which I answer, First, Whoever undertakes it will not be paid, if he does his Country Justice, but must rather do it for Honour than Gain.

Secondly, That I scarce ever knew any Justice do his Duty as such, but he had some Motive at the Bottom: For Instance, The Sportsman or Country Squire acts to put the Law strictly in Force against Poachers and Destroyers of the Game, that he may enjoy more Pleasure and Diversion himself, in all other Matters he is very careless; does just act indeed to save Appearances, and oftener wrong than right.

The

The next acts intirely for Profit, as he will undertake every thing, and the more that come to his Shop the better, he therefore makes himself a tolerable Master of the Laws, and is infinitely the best of the three Sorts I mention, and does the most good.

The third Sort is the most pernicious of all, for he punishes or excuses, sees or shuts his Eyes, for the Sake of Popularity; to oblige this Man, or depress that; to support this Party, or to oppose that; one hates an Exciseman, because a Servant of the Crown, and exclaims against Soldiers and a Standing Army; yet calls himself an honest Man, and in the Country Interest, On the other hand, we often see a Justice, what he calls supporting the Government to the utmost; making Constables and returning Officers of their Friends only, billeting Soldiers unequally, and many other Acts as wrong on the other Side.

Therefore as this is our Case at present, and Justices are made not for their Sense, Knowledge or Understanding, but on Account of their Property and Interest.

I think

I think it not unreasonable to give two out of every County three hundred Pounds a Year each, to exert themselves to save the County five thousand Pounds a Year, besides regulating and relieving the Poor. And when I see a Man that acts without a Regard to his Pleasure, Profit or Popularity, I should think him a proper Person, and I dare say his Country will also.

Here let me mention, that our Members were formerly paid; and I do verily believe they were as faithful to the great Trust reposed in them by their Country, as at present, when they have generously given up their Salaries, and take nothing; so are supposed by many, to be rather out of Pocket, by doing their Country Service.

However, if any one else can think of a cheaper and better Method that will be as effectual, I shall not envy him, but rejoice in his Success.

This may be tried first in one, two, or three Counties; the Wisdom of the Legislature will determine that.

If I have made use of Egotisms too much, or there are Mistakes in Diction or Stile, I hope to be excused; I have not Leisure (if had Abilities)

lies) to be more accurate, I hope I write to be understood, and it will give me great Satisfaction, if it is the Cause of any good to my Country.

Gentle Reader, if you pay to the Poor, I advise you to send for the Poor Book where you live, make a List of real Objects, relieve the Distressed if you are able, punish the Idle if you have Power, if you have not, apply to those that have, and if you persevere in it, you will find the Poor will in the End thank you, and the Rich be obliged to you, and you will do more real good to Society, and be of more intrinsic Use to the Country where you live, than all the Justices of the whole County put together, who act for Pleasure, Profit or Popularity only.





A
P R O P O S A L
F O R
Raising T I M B E R, &c.

W H E N I had the Pleasure to read
Mr. *Wade's* Pamphlet, called, *A
Proposal for improving and a-
dorning the Island of Great Bri-
tain, for the Maintainance of our Navy and
Shipping, for the Employment and perpetual Re-
lief of our Poor, &c.* it put me on writing
the following Sheets: And I hope this my first
Appearance in Print will be excused, when
I assure my Readers, it is the same Zeal that
actuated Mr. *Wade*, that is, the Honour and
Service of my Country, that makes me at-
tempt it.

B

Mr.

MR. *Wade* proposes by planting Timber and Forest-trees all over the Commons and Waste-grounds in *Great Britain*, to raise Timber sufficient for our Navy and Shipping, in Eighty, or, perhaps, fewer Years. All this Timber, &c. is to be for the Benefit of the parochial Poor, and while these Plantations are in their Infancy, he proposes the so much talk'd of Tax on useless Dogs, for to support it, or rather to pay the Poor who are to be employed in these Plantations; he proposes a Nursery of Four Acres in every Parish, to furnish Trees for these Plantations.

THIS Scheme of Mr. *Wade's* deserves the Thanks of his Country; but it is to be feared, there are so many insuperable Objections to his Proposal, that it never can be put in Execution effectually.

First, It would be very unreasonable to expect the Possessors of Farms that had Right of Commoning, to give up that Right; many Farms would be useless without such Privileges; which if all the Commons were planted would be greatly detrimented; For though some Commons do rot Sheep, all do
not ;

not; and those that do, are so very useful to the Occupiers for airing of Cows, Horses, Hogs, for breeding and feeding young Cattle, especially in Summer, that were such Commons inclosed and planted as proposed, it would add to the great Distress the Distemper among the Horned Cattle has already occasioned in the Price of Cattle; for now lean Oxen are Thirty *per Cent.* dearer than they were only Ten Years ago. And many Farmers in the County of *Sussex* particularly, could not breed any Cattle at all, if it was not for the Commons; for in the Summer their Grounds are sowed with Corn, and their young Cattle are then on the Commons, where, as there is commonly Water, they live very well, but they take them into their Grounds and feed them on Straw in the Winter. This is the first, and, I fear, a very great Objection, and scarce ever to be got over.

THE next is, no Lord of a Manor would give up his Right to the Timber now growing, or what might grow on the Commons; in some Places Tillers are very numerous, in

some Commons there is large Timber, in all, Timber may grow up by means of Bushes. And there is a great Law-Suit now dependant in the County of *Sussex*, between a worthy Baronet and a Tenant of the Manor, for the Tenants cutting Bushes on the Waste, and so leaving the Timber exposed to Damage. Brambles and Bushes seem meant by Providence (who made nothing in vain) as a Defence for Trees; for how would any naked Tree, while young, escape the Browze of Cattle, if not for Bushes?

ANOTHER Objection is, that a planted Oak (the Chief for Shipping) seldom makes a good Tree, as may be seen by those in Lord *Montague's* Park, whose Ancestor agreed with all his Labourers, that whoever, at their leisure Hours, planted and staked an Oak, should have a Shilling; this was about, as I have been informed, 70 Years ago; they were taken out of *Verdley* Coppice, belonging to that noble Family: They are all stunted, and grow more like Apple-trees than Oaks, and but very few even fit to make Plank-Timber, or to come into any Contract for the Royal Navy;

Navy; but had they continued in *Verdley* Coppice, and there had been room for them, or sown where they now are, they would all have been fit for such Contract.

For there is an Oak that was sown in a gravelly Soil Seventy-three Years ago, by Mr. *Joseph Lee*, that then lived at my House at *Stoke*, that has near two Loads in it, tho' it stands in a paved Court; and I do believe, if the same had been planted, it would not have had one Load in it in the same Space of Time.

Ash's seldom make good Trees from the Nursery; Walnuts and Chesnuts do sometimes; Elms indeed do generally (if taken Care of at first) make good Trees; and I have some that were planted One hundred and Eleven Years ago that have most of them two, and some three Loads in them.

ANOTHER Objection is, the present Expence of a Nursery of Four Acres as proposed, which will be found very burthensome to most Parishes, an Estimate of which is as follows:

For

	£.	s.	d.
For Plowing four Times, or Grub- ing, if Heath or Furze, Four Acres	4	0	0
For Fencing four Acres	5	0	0
For Bushes and Stakes	1	10	0
For a Gate and Posts and Iron- work, &c.	0	15	0
	£. 11	5	0

And this is set very reasonable.

Another Thing is, every Hedger and Ditcher, (tho' Mr. *Wade* says they can) cannot plant Trees, for they are very apt to plant them too deep, which is a Reason many planted Trees do not thrive, and many die; for nothing can be more prejudicial to any Tree than this too common Practice. These Obstacles, I am afraid, would (added to the Unwillingness of the Country People's being put out of their old Track) be unfurmountable. The Method that I would offer to raise Timber, is to make an Act for all Copyhold Tenants to buy the Timber growing on such their Copyholds, the Price to be fixed by three Men,

Men, prick'd by the Sheriff, out of the Freeholders (in case only, the Lord and Tenant do not agree about the Price) at their joint Expence; the said three Men to be allowed a proper Fee for their Trouble and Attendance; and, * all Pollards on such Copyholds, to be cut down by the Tenant directly; the Lord to have two Thirds, and the Tenant one, of the Bodies and the Top, the Lord to fagot, cut up and fetch away his Share in six Months; if any Dispute arise about this, also to be settled by three Men as above.

THIS only once done, would raise great Quantities of Timber, which now as it is, stripped and polled (notwithstanding all Care) by the Copyhold Tenants, or their Under-Tenants, never comes to any thing, but is only fit for the Fire.

IT is supposed near half the Kingdom is Copyholds; so that by this means the Timber now growing on it would come to be useful; the Lord would have a proper Satisfaction, and the Tenant improve his Estate and

* I would advise all Pollards to be cut, for where Pollards grow no young Timber will ever come, they spoil the Fences.

and Timber to his own and Family's Advantage, and this would make it the Tenant's Interest to preserve that, which, it is too notorious now, is to his Advantage to destroy.

ANOTHER Clause might be made in the Act, that all Leases should be void, *ipso facto*, unless the Number of Trees and their Sorts, growing on such Land, were specified at taking such Lease, on the Back of the Lease; and a Clause, that during the Lease the Tenant shall be bound to give Notice to the Landlord, or his Servant, when he designed cutting a Coppice or new making a Hedge, that the Landlord might tend to set out such young Tillers as he thought proper, or at least have his Option to do so or not; this would be a Means to preserve the Timber, on the other half of the Kingdom, especially if this was made as necessary as the Stamp, and if a great Penalty was made on any Tenant's stripping, polling or boughing, (without written Leave) any Tree above eight Feet from the Ground, or as high as a Man can reach, with a Hand-Bill, not a Bill-Hook, they are nearly the same Instrument, only one has a long Handle, and the other a short one :

Now

now it is too frequent to see many Gentlemen's Estates ruined as to Timber, while they are ignorant or careless of it, perhaps abroad, or following their Pleasures in London; and Farmers, if it is discovered, (which seldom happens) have some Excuse or Trick to misrepresent their ill Deeds.

NEXT, I would propose five Acres to be sowed (under the Direction of the Overseer of the Poor) in every Parish where there were fifty Acres of Waste-ground, and ten Acres in every Parish where there were one hundred Acres of Common or Waste-ground, twenty Acres where two hundred, and so on.

WHICH Land, so to be sowed, should be set out, and given up by the Lord of the Manor, or by his Orders, in proper Places, as he thought convenient, proper, or ornamental, and he to have the Liberty to inclose the same Quantity to sow or plant with Firs and Timber-Trees in like manner: For notwithstanding the Acts of Parliament, few ever planted Trees naked in a Common, but they are spoiled by some malicious Person or another; and as the Law stands, I do not see

C

how

how they can inclose them, which has hindered many plantings in such Places; this would indeed be an Ornament to the Country, and upwards of fifty thousand Acres would soon be planted; the Farmer would not feel this Loss of Common, the Lord would ornament his Estates by his own, and the parochial Plantations; Points of View on Heaths and Commons would be planted in Clumps and Avenues, the Roads also planted as they are in *France* in many Places, especially between *Paris* and *Roan*, and *Paris* and *Calais*, which were planting in *October*, 1738. and I saw them two Years ago fine growing Trees, they are Elms chiefly, Apple-Trees, Pear-Trees, Walnut-Trees, &c. This would create an Emulation, and Gentlemen might oblige each other by planting Clumps to answer each others Purposes of Views, or other Conveniencies that would occur.

THE Poor might reap some immediate Benefit of Underwoods for Fuel, and in some good Land, after all the Trees were set out at about two or three Years Growth

at proper Distances according to their Sorts, the Land might easily be grubbed at about Two-pence a Rod, and being digged (for no Plough should come in after the first Time,) and sowed with Tillage, Potatoes, Pease and Beans, for their Benefit, under the Direction of the Overseer, who should be accountable for the Produce.

One Clause would be necessary, if the Lord of the Manor did not raise Trees, and continue Trees on his Share, the People to have a Right to lay it waste again; and so the same, if the Overseers did not keep it in Timber, the Lord to have like Power to take it into his own Hands for that Purpose only, or lay it waste (only except the Periods of the Fall of the Timber of each respective Land) but either to be resown again if occasion, or replanted so as to continue for ever with Timber; so that what is meant by this is, that they may not turn it into Arable Land, Pasture or Meadow, which, I am afraid, some would be so covetous as to aim at. This Clause I only hint at, but it would require great Nicety to word it, which at pre-

sent I do not pretend to, only writing what occurs, and leave it to greater Adepts to do that.

The Hedges I should recommend to have planted with Crabs, and every twenty or thirty Feet an Elm, in the parochial Plantations only I mean, the Lord to do as he likes! Some Sort of Firs of the Pine Kind must be planted, as being tender, when young, others sown as very precarious (as having Tap-roots) some of which Number are the Stone or Great Pine, the Cluster Pine, the Pinaster, but the Silver and Scotch, and Lord Weymouth's Firs or Pines, are tender Seedlings; but this is a Digression, but for the Planter's Advantage to know, as some Ground may suit these Sorts.

ANOTHER Method which I would recommend to the Overseers, where the Ground would admit of it, is to Summer-fallow the Poor's Share, and sow it about November, with Wheat, Acorns and Ash-Keys, the Oaks would come up the first Year, and the Wheat being reaped, they would not be destroyed, as in cutting *Lean* Corn which is mowed,

mowed, and the Ash-Trees would come up
 the Year after; the Corn sown might be
 for the Use of the Poor immediately; the
 Hedges might be planted with Apple-Trees
 between Elms, every Rod or two Rods dis-
 tant, which in Time would produce vast
 Quantities of Fruit, for the Benefit of the
 Poor also; and I should think Lent Corn,
 Oats especially, on many Commons might be
 reaped, then it would be equally the same if
 sowed at that Time; and here let me men-
 tion some Commons, where even without
 Dung, it would answer, as *Godalmin Pease
 Marsh, Horsley Common, Westfield in Woking,*
all in Surrey, and almost every Com-
 mon in *Suffex*; for the Ground being fresh
 and never having been plowed or sowed
 would produce a great Crop; and if after
 the best Plants were left, the Poor were em-
 ployed in that so necessary a Work, the Dig-
 ging of it at least for twenty Years at first, an
 immense Quantity of Pulse and Potatoes, and
 even Turneps, and other esculent Roots for
 their Support only, might be raised. I say,
 for their Support only, for I would have
 no

no Cattle come in on any Account, or Presence, lest they should damage the Trees.

SINCE I wrote the foregoing Lines, I have read an Act of last Sessions of Parliament, and I must say, it is of no sort of Use; for it enacts, that any one may buy Land on the Waste, of the Lord and a Majority of the Tenants of the Manor, to inclose and plant, with Timber-trees: But then it also enacts, that all the Recompence paid for it, should go to the Poor of the Parish, who in all likelihood, have nothing to do with it, so that it will be found very difficult to get the Consent of the Lord and Tenants to a Sale of their Commons, that others are to receive the Purchase-Money of. But in my Scheme the Lord will be satisfied, the Tenant, as it will lower the Poor-Book, will be eased, and the Poor somewhat assisted at present, and much more so hereafter.

AND this Act might continue in force, except that Clause that enacts as above, which might be altered in these few Words, *satisfying the Lord and the Tenants for the same*, for the Act in all other respects is of Use, and would be so particularly to Parishes that
have

have no Waste of their own, who are authorized to buy some in any neighbouring Parish or Manor by that Act.

I SHALL next attempt to find an Expedient, to almost annihilate the Poor Tax, to employ them all, to have real Objects and the Impotent, well clothed, kept clean and well fed, the Dissolute and Insolent corrected, and the Idle employed and made to work, and to render them all useful to Society, and not the Pest and the Scandal of their Country, which brings me to the second Part of this Pamphlet.





PART the Second.

I Now come to the Design of better Supporting and Maintaining the real and distressed Poor, and of employing and correcting the Indolent and Idle, and for putting all Laws in Force relating thereto.

It may look like Presumption in me to aim at such a Scheme, when so many have already failed in this Design: But as I intend this only as a Ground-work, and hope others will improve on it, and as it is meant for the publick Good, I shall not regard that Censure: If it succeeds, I shall be happy in having thought of it; if it fails, I shall content myself, that it had the same Fate all Schemes hitherto published have had. The Necessity of some Method to put a Stop to the excessive Burden of the Poor, will, I hope, excuse me for proposing any Method for that Purpose. So, without further Apology, I propose, that an Act be made as soon as may be, that all Beggars, Vagabonds

bonds, Strollers, Gypsies, or those called so,
 and all others described in the Act of the
 17th of George II. as vagrant, idle, and dis-
 orderly Persons, should immediately repair to
 their Parishes; and if they are not able, thro'
 Poverty or Sickness, to apply to some Justice
 to be passed to their Parishes, and if they
 do not know their Parishes, to the Place
 where they were last relieved; and if after
 the first Day of next May, any one was found
 begging, or committing any Act of Vagrant-
 cy, to be committed, till the next Sessions,
 to the House of Correction; and to be by
 that Sessions, on Proof the Act of Vagrancy,
 transported for five Years to some of our
 Colonies, and if they returned before the
 Expiration, to be deemed Felons, and to suf-
 fer Death as Felons returning from Trans-
 portation.

IMMEDIATE Notice to be given of this
 Act by Proclamation by Constables and
 Tything-men every Week, by the Clerks in
 Churches and Church-yards every Sunday,
 by the Common Crier in Market Towns
 every Market-Day, and by Advertisements

stuck up, so that none should plead Ignorance of this salutary Law.

I THEN would have a Register in every Parish regulated in Columns, and better to shew the Nature of what I mean, at the End I have made one, and all the Poor are set down in it, that have occurred to me in the Parishes where I have lived, or neighbouring Parishes, and stand at this very Time upon the footing there mentioned; and let any Gentleman send to the Parish Officers where he lives, to bring him the Poor Book, and he will find the greatest Burthen is from the Idle and Slothful, and the Impotent and real Poor have but a small Part of those immense Sums in every County, which is disbursed for the Support of the Poor, and he will see some of those that will come into every Class of my Register.

I would have strictly put in force the Act of the 8th and 9th of *William III.* and every Person that had any Support from the Parish, *while he had that Support only*, should wear a Badge as that Act requires. And that Act of the 43d of *Elizabeth*, that
enacts,

enacts, that the Churchwardens and Overseers shall buy a sufficient Stock of Flax, Hemp and Wool, to which might be added, or any other Materials whatsoever, to employ the Poor, should be carefully put in execution.

AND there is another Act of the 3^d of Charles, that Churchwardens may set up Trades to employ the Poor only.

AND another very useful and necessary Act was made only a few Years ago, viz. that of the 24th of his present Majesty, to prevent Spirituous Liquors being used in Work-houses, Alms-houses, or any House for the Reception of Parish Poor.

THESE Laws, I again say, I would have strictly attended to, and all other Laws in Relation to the Poor and their Settlements to continue.

THERE are two Sorts of Poor, that are the most troublesome ; the one is he that does work, but will not maintain his Family.

I WILL give an Instance of both of these Sort : First, *John West*, a Labourer, gets seven Shillings a Week ; this Money, or the

stuck up, so that none should plead Ignorance of this salutary Law.

I THEN would have a Register in every Parish regulated in Columns, and better to shew the Nature of what I mean, at the End I have made one, and all the Poor are set down in it, that have occurred to me in the Parishes where I have lived, or neighbouring Parishes, and stand at this very Time upon the footing there mentioned; and let any Gentleman send to the Parish Officers where he lives, to bring him the Poor Book, and he will find the greatest Burthen is from the Idle and Slothful, and the Impotent and real Poor have but a small Part of those immense Sums in every County, which is disbursed for the Support of the Poor, and he will see some of those that will come into every Class of my Register.

I would have strictly put in force the Act of the 8th and 9th of *William III.* and every Person that had any Support from the Parish, *while he had that Support only*, should wear a Badge as that Act requires. And that Act of the 43d of *Elizabeth*, that enacts,

enacts, that the Churchwardens and Overseers shall buy a sufficient Stock of Flax, Hemp and Wool, to which might be added, *or any other Materials whatsoever*, to employ the Poor, should be carefully put in execution.

AND there is another Act of the 3d of *Charles*, that Churchwardens may set up Trades to employ the Poor only.

AND another very useful and necessary Act was made only a few Years ago, *viz.* that of the 24th of his present Majesty, to prevent Spirituous Liquors being used in Work-houses, Alms-houses, or any House for the Reception of Parish Poor.

THESE Laws, I again say, I would have strictly attended to, and all other Laws in Relation to the Poor and their Settlements to continue.

THERE are two Sorts of Poor, that are the most troublesome ; the one is he that does work, but will not maintain his Family.

I WILL give an Instance of both of these Sort : First, *John West*, a Labourer, gets seven Shillings a Week ; this Money, or the

major Part, he spends at the Alehouse; his Wife, after some Time (when nobody will trust her any more) is obliged to apply to a Justice for Relief for herself and three Children; tells a lamentable Story, that they are starving, all are not born to be rich; that the World frowns upon them, it is hard they should starve; and much Cant to this Purpose. The *astonished* Justice, without enquiring further, orders her two Shillings and Six-pence *per* Week. But if the Complaint happens to be made to a Justice that does condescend to hear what the Parish Officers have to say, why they should not relieve her Family, what is done then? First, the Parish Officer says, the Husband is always at an Alehouse, gets seven Shillings a Week, and might maintain his Family with the Money he spends there; to which the Justice agrees; but tells them there are no Laws to prevent a Man spending his Money how he pleases, or to punish him for so doing; and adviseth them to take care the Woman and Children do not starve, and very humanely adds, that it would be hard
the

the innocent Children should suffer for the ill Behaviour of their Father, that People must not starve. From this Act of his Worship the Family is (if I may call it so) pensioned on the Parish, and will never be off their Books.

Now I would have this Man (on Proof that he did, or was able to earn seven Shillings a Week, and that he frequented Ale-houses as above) be whipped, not exceeding two hundred Lashes, nor less than an hundred, well laid on, every Month his Family was relieved; which would soon get rid of this Sort, which may be found in my Register at the End of this Book.

THE other are strolling Poor, that go from Place to Place under Pretence of getting Work, and which, to my Knowledge, is a great Charge and Burthen to every County, and is by many Parishes encouraged. And I beg to give an Instance of that also: One T. L. (I do not choose to mention his Name) belonged to the Parish of *Bignor*; he was well educated and well born and bred, and deserved a better Fate; but being extravagant

gant in his Youth, he became poor, wandered from Place to Place, but in a few Weeks was passed home as a Vagrant; the Overseers and Church-wardens found him rather troublesome and impertinent, as understanding more than they did, so they gave him Shoes, Cloaths, and five Shillings in Money, for him to march off; he chearfully accepted it, and begun his March directly; and in about twelve Months Time was passed back again, and he as constantly set out again, having his fixed Salary of five Shillings, old Cloaths and Shoes, &c. so for many Years, though the Parish Officers were told it was illegal and wrong; till at last he was passed home so nasty, lousy, and diseased, that no one would take him in, and he laid in a Barn some time before he died, and wanted common Necessaries.

THE Act of the 13th and 14th of *Charles II.* Cap. 12. seems to aim at fixing Settlements, but I could wish it was altered thus, "If any Man of low Degree should, after the first of *May*, settle, or endeavour to settle himself in any Parish, by taking a Room, House or Tenement under ten Pounds *per Annum,*

Annum, and no Complaint should be lodged within forty Days, that he should be settled on that Parish to all Intents and Purposes."

THIS would make Parish Officers very cautious how they admitted any Wanderers, and would save much Trouble and Expence to every County: Not but there might be proper Licences or Certificates to any Labourers in Harvest, or to Women and Children to go Hop-picking, or any other necessary Work of the Country; and the Landlord or Owner of any House or Tenement, or Room, that harboured any Settler as above, and did not give Notice to the Overseers, to be fined five Pounds by Distress and Sale, on proper Complaint made, which should go to the Poor.

WORK-HOUSES, Alms-houses, and Poor-houses, are now (instead of being to the Advantage of the Poor or the Parish) Receptacles of Rogues and Strumpets, so abominably nasty, that no Man who has any Regard to his Health will go into them; so abominably disorderly and ill kept, that they create a Nuisance instead of preventing (as their Intention was) Nusances, and almost every where

where call for a strict Inquiry, which surely is not unworthy the Care of an *English* Senate.

It is true, it may be answered to all this, that our Laws are good and excellent, and that most of these Enormities are provided against by different Acts; all which I do allow; and, if any one will give himself leave to inquire, are scarce ever put in execution. And farther, I insist, if ten thousand more Laws were made they would only puzzle the Cause, for no Man will or can put them in execution; so they would avail no more than those already made. And if any Man will only turn to Mr. *Burn's* Justice, he will see 307 Pages on the Article of Poor only; so that the Poor Laws are a Study, which I am bold to say many Justices are not capable of understanding, and others are so intent on their Diversions, that they will not attend to what does not contribute to their Pleasure or Profit.

INDEED, I allow all that can be said as to the Goodness and Excellencies of our Laws. But who will, without Fee or Reward, do all they ought to do? Who will trouble them-

themselves about Beggars and Vagabonds, and Vagrants? Who will visit Alms-houses, Poor-houses, &c.

It cannot be expected they should, Laws are made under Protection, but they are executed with Danger.

No Justice will be Informer as well as Justice, I mean on View; the Farmer, as the Laws stand now, must pay his Taxes; the Indolent will eat the Bread of the Impotent; the Idle and Dissolute will be indulged to their Ruin, and to the great Hurt of the Country; and the poor honest Labourer, who has laboured in his Youth, and done his Duty as a Man and a Christian, is niggardly supported; and yet our Laws are good and excellent!

Give me leave to say, it is much easier to make Laws, than to put them in Execution effectually; and as our Poor are so abandoned at present, it requires People of Activity and Spirit, as well as Knowledge in our Poor Laws, which, as I said before, are a Study.

THEREFORE I would have in every County chosen by Ballot by all the Justices, two

E

out

out of the *acting Justices*, to be called Protectors of the Poor, and to have a Salary of three hundred Pounds a Year for themselves, and one Clerk each, to visit and inspect the Poor-Books, &c. see all the aforementioned Laws put in Execution ; his Abode to be in the County for which he was chose protecting Justice, *to visit every Parish himself*, no Excuse to be admitted of but Sickness, and if that continued another to be chose by Ballot as aforesaid ; twice a Year to visit Poor-houses, Alms-houses, Work-houses ; to take Notice of Money left to the Poor, and all Poor-Accounts ; in short, to punish the Idle, and see the Impotent and the real Poor better provided for ; all Constables and Tythingmen to attend him, and obey his Orders, he to take an Oath in this Form :

“ I *John Smith* of *Petersfield*, in the County of *Southampton*, do solemnly swear, I will examine and inspect every Parish in the Eastern Division of the said County ; twice a Year I will visit every Poor-house, Alms-

“ Alms-house and Work-house, and see that
 “ Cleanliness, Decency and Decorum is pre-
 “ served, and a good Regulation established
 “ in the said Houses. I will do strict Jus-
 “ tice, and not punish or present any Person
 “ through Malice or Hatred, or favour any
 “ one through Favour or Affection, Fee or
 “ Reward, directly or indirectly, but do my
 “ Duty to the best of my Knowledge, for
 “ the better Maintaining the real Poor, and
 “ keeping good Order, and for the Good of
 “ my Country in general. So help me God
 “ on the true Faith of a Christian.

John Smith,

AND to keep these Gentlemen in awe, I
 would have them under the immediate Com-
 mands of a Committee of the House of
 Commons, to be chose every Parliament, as
 regularly as the Committee of Elections is
 chosen.

THE next Thing is to raise Money to pay
 the six hundred Pounds, and I think it could
 not be less; to do which, I propose two Shil-
 lings *per* House for all taxed to the Poor,

which in every County would raise a much greater Sum; this should be gathered by the Overseers of the Poor, and paid over to the Protecting Justices, and they to give Receipt and Security, and pass their Accounts on Oath at every *Midsummer* Sessions; the Overplus to be laid out in putting poor Parish Boys Apprentices, either to Trades or Sea, not to exceed seven Pounds seven Shillings, and to portion, on Marriage, Parish Girls, not exceeding ten Pounds ten Shillings.

THESE Protectors of the Poor, or one of them, to be authorized to remove any Person endeavouring to settle in any Parish, but not after forty Days Continuance undisturbed, unless previous Notice of it was delivered at his Office, or with his Clerk.

THESE Justices, or one of them, to have Authority to take away any Licence, on Proof of Gaming being allowed, either at Ninepins, or any other unlawful Games, or where Tipling was allowed, or disorderly Persons harboured. And let me observe, that common Ale-houses are grown a Nuisance, though the first Intention of them

was

was to help, keep, and maintain those of the Parish Poor that were past out-door Labour; and if I may be allowed the Expression, they are a double Nuisance now, for they are generally kept by such only that understand Horse-racing, Cock-fighting, Cricket, Cudgelling, Boxing and Bull-baiting, and not only deprive the poor Labourer of a Maintenance who is past his Labour, but the Labour of these very People is all lost to the Publick who have a Right to it; for if they can live idle, they will not work. Ale-houses are therefore certainly much too numerous, and ought to be (near half of them at least) suppressed. If I remember rightly, I once saw a small Book, wrote by a very worthy Gentleman in the Commission of the Peace for *Surrey*, and, I believe, now the oldest Justice in that County, in which Book he proposes to limit the Number of Ale-houses, one to every hundred Houses in each Parish; this Book he only printed a few Copies of to give away to his Friends, so it is not to be bought, though it is pity he did not make it more publick; when I say, Ale-houses, I do

do not mean great Inns in publick Places and Thoroughfares, but only common Ale-houses, the Receptacles for the lower Class of People.

I MENTIONED parochical Plantations, in the first Part of this Pamphlet, which I would propose to be supported by a Tax on Dogs, and to be paid into the Hands of these Protecting Justices, being gathered by the Overseers of the Poor ; I suppose ten Pounds a Year for a Pack of Hounds, or any Number of Dogs, above the Number ten, and ten Shillings for every single Dog of any Kind under the Number of eleven ; this would raise a vast Fund in every County : And after the parochial Plantations were compleated, which, I suppose, would be in about two Years, it might for the future go to buy Corn, to lay up in cheap Times, for the use of the Poor only. Every one now sees, that if it should so happen we should have a bad Crop next Harvest (which is much to be feared we shall, for Corn never looked worse) that the Poor must starve in our Streets ; whereas it has been sold for five and six Pounds a Load, within these few Years,

though

though now it sells for sixteen, seventeen, and eighteen Pounds a Load. Now is the Time to attempt this Regulation ; the Poor will readily come into, the Farmer will agree to it, the Lord of the Manor assent ; thousands of Acres may be sown even yet, with some Sorts of Grain and Pulse, for their future Support.

HERE let me take Notice, that if Corn is allowed to be sold by Sample as they call it, there is no Occasion for an Act of Parliament to prevent Forestalling, which I take to be, buying Corn, or other Provisions, moving, or being actually on the Road to Market, which never can happen now as to Corn ; for no Man will carry his Load of Corn (perhaps to bring it back again) when a little Canvas Bag will show the Quality of his Corn, and save him much Trouble and Expence. It then may be said, how does this hurt the Poor, when Farmers sell them their Corn *at the Market Price* at home ? To which I answer, there is not under the Copes of Heaven so much Cunning and Art made use of by any set of Men, as by Farmers :
they

they appear to act fair, when at the same Time they do not; for they make it weight when they sell it to the Miller or Mealman; but when they sell it the Labourer, they do not, but only measure it; and any one conversant in Husbandry Business does know, there is a vast Exaction in that Article only, tho' the Farmer pretends he has no more *per Bushel* from the Labourer than the Miller, but then there is greater Measure to the Miller allowed to make the Corn *weigh*. The first Question, after you show a Miller your Sample of Corn, is, what does it weigh? and he gives accordingly. And I had once Occasion in the Scarcity of the hard Frost, to inquire particularly into this. His Grace the Duke of S. sold Corn at Guildford Market, dearer than any body else *per Load*; but on inquiry, his Servants, to please his Grace, *made it weigh*, so the Millers could afford to give an extraordinary Price. Nobody now knows, if Corn is permitted to be sold by Sample and not in open and fair Market, (tho' it at first may appear hard to bring it to Market) to what Price it will not rise, for all
the

the poorer Farmers have sold already, or at least most of them have, and the Corn is now in the Hands of the Opulent, who will not bring it to *Market till the very last Moment; but as the Senate of this Nation has this under their Consideration, it would be Presumption in me to offer my Thoughts.

So I return to give Reasons for a Tax on Dogs. First, Madness from the Bite of a Dog is so shocking and terrible in its Consequences, so very uncertain at any Time of Life of a Cure, and must leave such horrid Apprehensions to those even that suppose themselves cured, as to make their Lives uneasy ever after; that it has been thought by some right to destroy the whole Species in this Island; by others, that is thought to be cruel and barbarous; but surely it cannot be thought wrong to lessen the Number of *useless Dogs*, by a heavy Tax on those that keep them. The greatest Misfortunes arise from useless Curs. They generally begin the Mischief, for Dogs belonging to Gentlemen, are usually kept in Kennels,

* When I say Market, I mean any Place of Sale, for any one may expose Corn to sale in a Village, Markets being established only for the Convenience of the Buyer and Seller.

or tied up, so that on the first Symptoms of Madness they are taken care of, and prevented doing any harm; whereas the poor Man's Cur is at Liberty, and is much more likely to be infected with Madness, for sometimes he lives very hard, at other Times on Cattle's dying has plenty of Food, which causes (as is supposed) so sudden a Change in his Blood that it brings on Madness, and it is not unreasonable to think it may produce that Effect.

THE next Reason for a Tax on Dogs is, the fatal Accidents by the Bites of Dogs not mad, which I dare say, almost every one can recollect some unhappy Instance of.

ANOTHER Reason is (though I know it is looked on as a Chimera) that Dogs do spread the Infection amongst the horned Cattle, and it is reasonable to think they may; for if an Apothecary or Physician has not a mind to spread the Small-pox or any infectious Distemper, it is remarkable he is careful to change his Cloaths, and Wig especially, for it is a known Thing, ill Scents do abide in Hair a long Time; but why may not Dogs eat of infected Carcasses (for never were Laws
and

and Orders worse observed) and so spread that Distemper, which in most Counties has been the Ruin of many Families?

THE next Mischief done by Dogs, is that they destroy Sheep, Ewes and Lambs especially; and I once knew six and thirty, worth as many Pounds, spoilt and destroyed in one Night by two useless Mungrels. This, give me leave to say, is not an inconsiderable Loss to the Land Occupier, almost every Year.

AND lastly, I come to the unlawful Use of Dogs, in poaching and destroying the Game. And tho' I am not so strenuous as many are about the Game, yet I think the lower Class of People should by all means be prevented from trifling away their Time after it; it gives them a natural turn for Idleness and Dissoluteness; they cannot work in the Day if they go out in the Night; and though they may get sometimes twenty Shillings of a Night, yet that is spent at Ale-houses, and their Family is not the better for it. I have known many Poachers convicted, and scarce ever knew one but was ragged, and their Family starving; and the former

Part of that Verse of the *Proverbs* may be well applied to these Sort of idle Poor, and the latter Part to the diligent and industrious Labourer; *The slothful Man roasteth not that he took in hunting, but the Substance of a diligent Man is precious*, Chap. xii. verse 27.

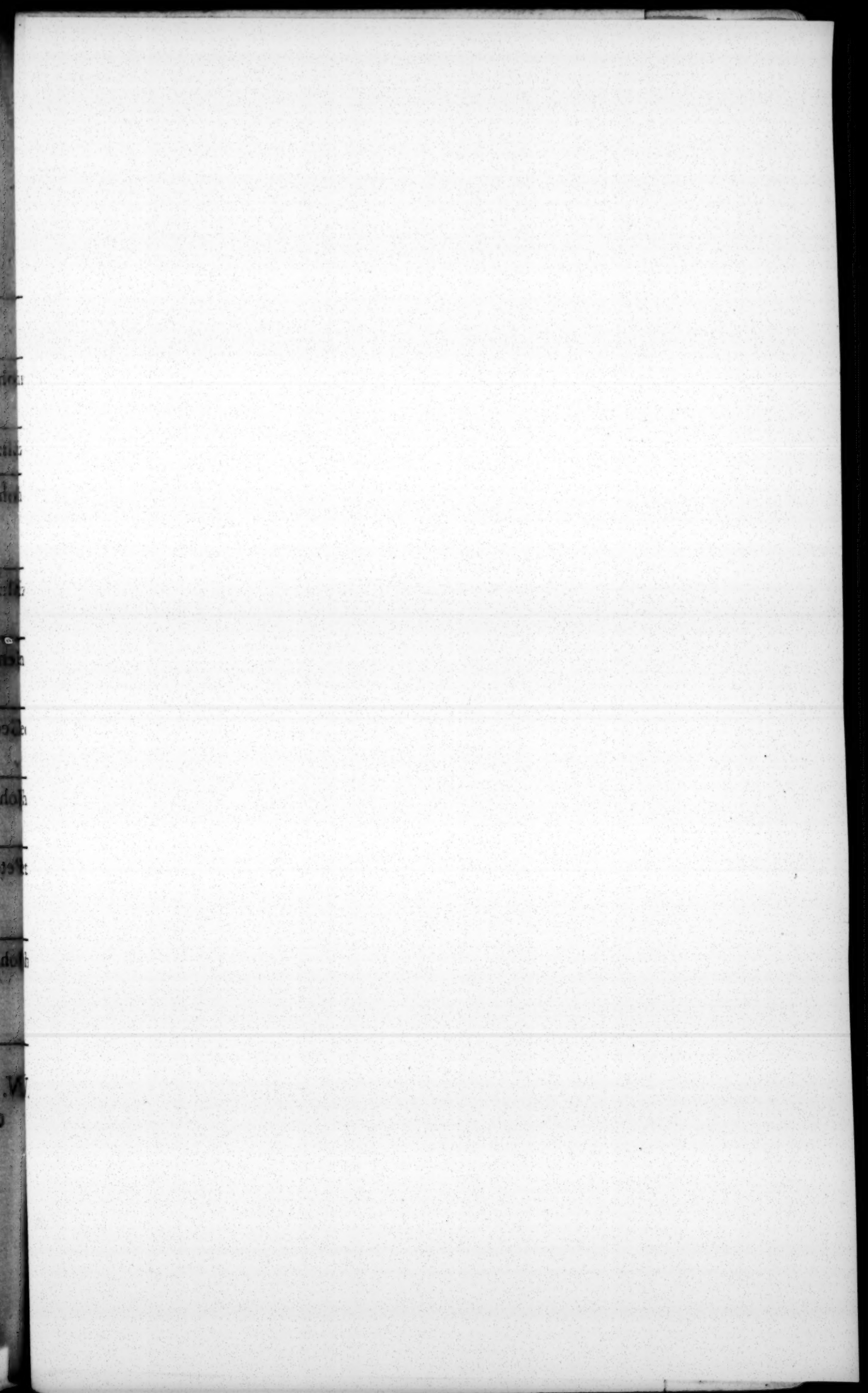
THESE are, I hope, sufficient Reasons for a Tax on Dogs; the Gentleman and Sportsman would come into it, and I never yet talked to a Farmer but he assented to it; it would be of real Benefit to the Poor, as it would supply the Deficiency of a bad Harvest, and if please God we should not want it for that Purpose, the Money arising from it, after the first great Design of raising Timber was answered, might go to give small Fortunes to poor Girls to encourage Matrimony amongst the lower Class of People, which (though I believe the Marriage Act was well and rightly intended) is greatly out of Fashion amongst them, and they think, and it is not easy to persuade them to the contrary, *that they cannot marry* since that Act; and it is just the same thing as if they could not, if they think they cannot; they have

have not an Opportunity to inform themselves better; but all understand it in that Light; so that I have known some not inconsiderable Farmers excuse Incontinency in their Servants, and even in their Children, by saying, ‘What could the poor Girls do, ‘they cannot marry?’ And as this is fixed in their Minds, it will, I fear, be very hard to convince them of that Error, without a Repeal of that Act, or at least some Part of it.

I FORGOT to mention, that the Clergy will willingly come into this Scheme, for they, after seven Years are past, and the waste Ground is improved, will have a Right to Tythe of the Tillage, either by Spade or Plow, and of *Silva Cædua* where not tilled; which, I dare say, they will not neglect to claim, and which in some Parishes (now only poor Livings) will be a very great Increase.

It has been often said, that the Riches of a Kingdom consist in the Number of Inhabitants, which this Scheme will greatly contribute to, for the Poor by this may live comfortably, regularly and honestly; our
Country

Country will be ornamented for half a Century by these Plantations, and enriched when cut by the Sale thereof; our Navy and Shipping be able to flourish for ever; good Order amongst the lower Class will be established, which in Time will prevent so many unhappy Wretches being hanged (by Cart Loads) every Sessions; Virtue and Religion will revive, divine Worship will be better attended, our Streets cleared of Beggars, our Roads of Robbers and Highwaymen; and it is not too late even yet, to show the World, that we can enjoy Liberty without falling into Licentiousness, and that we know the Blessings of Plenty, without running into Luxury and Vice; and notwithstanding any foolish Disputes amongst ourselves, and the unhappy Events of War, we may yet convince our Enemies, that as we are brave and loyal, we will be a free and a happy People.



A REGISTER of the PARISH

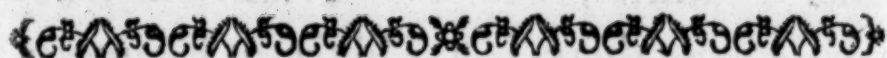
Names.	Age.	Trades.	Family.	Behaviour.	Ability.
John West	46	Bricklayer	Two Daughters	Very bad	Able and do get 9s. per Week
Elizabeth Binfield	58	A Widow	No Family.	Very good	Infirm
John Smith	50	Labourer	No Family	Very bad, a Wanderer	* Able
Elizabeth Quennell	18	o	o	A Prostitute	* Very able
John Jones	8	o	Father and Mother dead	An Idiot.	o
George Copus	43	Labourer	Wife and 4 small Children	Very good	Broke his Leg
John Mafon	18	Labourer	Wife and 3 Children	Very Idle	* Able
John Moon	20	Labourer	Single Fellow never in Service	Very Idle	* Can work well
John Ford	56	Rope-maker	1 Son, 1 Daughter, in good Circumstances able to keep him	* Bad	Not able to work but little

B. Those I mark with an Asterism should be well whipped every Time
every Denomination should wear a Badge on pain of whipping, not exceed

RISH POOR of B. 1756.

ity.	When first Charge- able.	When punished.	When discharged.	Allowance.
and does er Week	September 10, 1750.	Never yet punish- ed	Still on the Books	12 s. per Month
	May 10, 1753.	o	o	6 s. per Month
	June 10, 1755, passed Home	Whipped	Gone off	Cost the Parish in Money and Cloaths 1 l. 5 s.
ble	Passed Home, July 18, 1755.	Not whipped	Gone off	Cost 1 l.
	From her Birth	o	o	6 s. a Month
s Leg	May 9.	o	o	1 l. a Month, and Surgeon
	From May, 1751.	Once whipped	And discharged	Cost the Parish 10 s.
ork well	1st May, 1756, for nobody would employ him	Never	Will not go to Ser- vice but work at his own Hands.	Has at Times cost the Parish 5 l.
e to work e	For 3 Years past	o	o	8 s. a Month.

Time relieved, until they worked, or they behaved better. All of
 exceeding two hundred Lashes well laid on, nor under an hund



S U P P L E M E N T.

Relating to a

N A T I O N A L M I L I T I A.

I Think it necessary since I wrote the foregoing Pamphlet, to say, that the Scheme there proposed in Relation to the Poor, and raising Corn for their Use, will obviate some Difficulties now started against a National Militia; but to set this in a true Light, it will be necessary to state the Advantages and Benefits from a well-regulated Militia, as well as the Dangers and Evils that may possibly arise from it to this Kingdom.

First, THOSE that cry out for a Militia, say, it is the only Constitutional Army for the *Defence* of this Country; and they name *Barbadoes*, an Island that is defended by its Militia, and the *Glasgow* Militia that did fight, or at least were the last to run away in *Scotland*; they name the Highlanders that beat our regular Army at *Preston Pans* and *Falkirk*, and quote the *Swiss* Cantons, and
other

other Countries, and even *France* our Enemies, where there is a Militia, as Examples worthy our following.

Secondly, THEY say, an Army cannot be raised and disciplined on any Emergency, time enough to meet the Enemy with any Probability of Success, and that we cannot afford to pay an Army, if it could be raised: And such an Army would be able (if wicked enough) under a bad Prince, to enslave us.

THEY say our regular Troops might be employed to annoy our Enemies abroad, while a defensive Army of Militia might defend us at home; *for no one is so sanguine, as to propose Conquests by a Militia.*

THEY say, our numerous Fleets then might be sent against the Enemy, and not kept rotting at home and of no Use, for no Enemy, if we had sixty thousand Militia, would invade us; and they mention a Speech of *Lewis XIV.* when advised to attack this Island, which was, *When you recollect their numerous Militia, you will think it a fruitless Attempt, for they will not fight perhaps for honour*
and

and Conquest, as my Troops do; yet they will fight to defend themselves, and their Property.

THEY say, if they cannot trust too much Power in the Hands of a numerous regular Army of Natives, *tho' many, very many of them are Men of great Property*, much less should they trust any Power in the Hands of *Foreigners*; so that any Assistance from them is not to be expected.

ON the other Hand, some say a Militia would not fight unless *always* under martial Law; and they say, they only want to ruin the Army that propose a Militia.

THEY say, if the Militia were subject to martial Law, *even then*, on an Attack, the Gentlemen of Fortune would *not* submit to be ordered by the Officers of the regular Forces; there would be continual Feuds and Quarrels, and in all likelihood, a Civil War would be the Consequence.

THEY say, arming the People would (on any rising of the Clothiers, Colliers about Turnpikes, or the Poor about the immense Price of Corn) create great Danger, for they would fly to Arms, and resist the military

G

Force,

Force, which now soon quells them, when called to the Aid of the civil Power, but often not without Bloodshed.

THEY say, it would not be sufficient to make them of any considerable Use, to exercise them only on *Sundays*; and the Clergy are under terrible Apprehensions, on the Score of Religion, and say it is wicked and diabolical, that the Ordinances of Men should authorise the People to break the Commandments of God.

ALL these Objections I will answer Article by Article.

First, I say, the Militia would fight (*if subject to martial Law upon an Invasion only*) to defend themselves and Property; and shall ever believe *Englishmen* will rather fight for their own Property, when attacked, than for Six-pence a Day; and for that Reason, I would have most of the Militia consist of *Freeholders and Copyholders possessed of a certain Sum per Annum*, or their Sons in the Life-time of their Fathers; the Officers, who would be Men of Fortune, to chuse what others he liked, but the Majority

majority to be Freeholders and Copyholders. Clothiers and Colliers are improper Persons, as more useful in their Occupations. And as to destroying the regular Army it would not, for the Army might, with Consent of Parliament, be only fifteen thousand in Time of Peace, and in Time of War never to exceed thirty thousand Men.

THIS would greatly prevent any Feuds or Quarrels. And if the Gentlemen of the most known Affection to the present Establishment, and best Estates, were Officers in the Militia, and those that have retired out of the Army and live on their Fortunes, as there are many in every County, were also appointed Officers; it would be almost impossible any Quarrels should happen, especially as the Militia would *only* be called out on Emergencies (when they would be paid, and subject to military Laws) and would unite in Defence of their Country.

HERE let me say, as much as a Militia is despised, if it should happen that *Portsmouth* should be attacked (as closely as *St. Philip's Castle* was) the Governor would be glad of

a thousand Men of such Militia as I have named.

I would have the Officers of Militia to gain no Rank, but the Officers that have retired to keep theirs, according to the Dates of their former Commissions when in the Army; this also would obviate and prevent Quarrelling.

As to the rising of Clothiers, Colliers, and the Poor, on Account of their Wages, Turnpikes (improperly as they think put up) and the Scarcity of Corn; I think that might be managed easily. In the first Place, few of these come into the Description of the proposed Militia; and the Clothiers Complaint is chiefly about Truck, or their Masters paying them in Goods instead of Money; against which there is an express Act of Parliament, with severe Penalties (but I fear not duly executed). As to the Affair of Turnpikes and Corn, they raise dangerous Tumults about these Matters; but there is (as it has been hinted at before in the Papers) a Method to remedy at the same Time both these Evils, which is, making it treble Pay at every Turnpike-

pike-gate on a *Sunday* to buy Corn to sell to the Poor now in this Time of Scarcity, at a moderate Price, *viz.* seven Pounds a Load, and to erect Magazines and lay up Corn when at seven Pounds a Load, to sell to them in a future Time of Scarcity. Surely this would please the Poor; the more Turn-pikes the more Money, the more Money the more Corn in Store; it would also be of Advantage to the Farmer, as he might sell his Corn at a good Price to lay by; for surely seven Pounds is better than four, and four Pounds ten Shillings, which I have known Corn sold for within these fifteen Years; but great Care should be taken, that this Fund is honestly applied.

ANOTHER Clause might be enacted, that whoever (of the private Men) in the Militia took up Arms, and under any Pretence used them offensively, by firing at, or wounding, or killing any Subject of *Great Britain*, without Orders from, and being drawn up by their Officers, or those ordered to command them, should be guilty of Felony, and suffer
Death;

Death ; *in short, without being on Duty, and Orders so to do.*

I NOW come to the last Objection, that the *Sundays* are not sufficient to exercise them. I only say, if they were both exercised before Morning Service, and after Evening Service in Summer, and once a *Sunday* in Winter, and all Holydays that are usually kept, it might be sufficient, and would be better than their throwing at Cocks, Bull-baiting, and Drunkenness.

As to the Objection made by the Clergy, as I am no Divine, I can oppose no Argument against their Scruples, unless I say, it will bring more People to attend divine Worship than would *otherwise* come; the Duty of the Day would not be interrupted; and it is a Work of Necessity, and of such Necessity, that our wisest Men think our very Being, as a Nation, depends on it. I cannot see but it would be as innocent to exercise Men on a *Sunday*, after and before Service, as to go to the Ale-house, or to Cricket, or other Sports, the constant Practice now of many Places.

BUT as this is quite out of my way, I
shall

shall leave that to be decided by higher Powers.

BUT as *Horace* says, *improba siren desidia*; so I do insist, Idleness, Drunkenness, and Debauchery, are practised more on *Sundays* than on any other Days, which might (with some Reason) give Rise to the Act of Sports and Pastimes in a former Reign. People, when they have nothing to do, generally fall into Temptation, and though they never intended it, are unawares drawn into Vice and Folly, especially the lower Sort; and I appeal, if in most Counties, *Sunday* is not the Day of the greatest Junquetting and Debauchery.

IN short, we must defend ourselves if we are invaded, and tho' I suppose the *French*, if they do invade us, will do it either with a very great Force in one Place, or in many Places at the same Time, and I do, and will allow the Militia, if raised, may not be able to oppose and stop them, but they can destroy their Subsistence, the Roads and Bridges, and impede greatly their Progress. So that had we sixty thousand Militia, we could get Time to
gather

gather a Body of Forces sufficient to risque a Battle, and they must attack us at a vast Disadvantage ; though it is too notorious they know (*or at least can know*) every Road, Ford, Pass, and would be conducted by those Miscreants the Smugglers to the Capital. But give me leave to say, the Army, as it is now, could not risque a Battle, for fear of a Mis-carriage. I will suppose the Militia of *Sussex, Surrey, Hampshire* and *Middlesex*, on a Landing of the Enemy, beat, I mean joined to the Regulars in those Parts ; even then there is a Resource of all other Counties, and every Step they advanced towards either the Capital or *Portsmouth*, or any other Place they should make the Object of their Conquest, they would be surrounded, and put between two Fires, from the West if they went to *London*; if to *Portsmouth, Sussex, Surrey* and *Kent* would rally ; they must gain (if the Militia would fight) every Inch, against Fa-mine, Fire and Sword, and our Artillery, for if they bring any Artillery, it must be trifling to what may be brought against them in a few Hours by us. In short, it would be so
ridiculous

ridiculous a Scheme, *had we a regulated Militia*, that we need not fear any Potentate to annoy us.

ANOTHER Argument for a Militia is, the *Roman Catholicks* would be in Fear of rising, and kept in great Awe ; and in many Counties, it is thought by them, and has been declared, that there is but one Victory to be gained to set the Pretender on the Throne, which shows, if such a Misfortune was to happen, (which God forbid) what we are to expect from their pretended Loyalty.

I do not mean by this, I would hurt the *Roman Catholicks* ; no, far from it ; let every Man enjoy Liberty of Conscience, and serve God in his own Way, but at the same Time do not let us suffer them (as they do) to keep publick Chappels at all their Houses, which are as much, and as publickly frequented as the Church of the established Religion, *and even in their Absence*, not only by their Domesticks and Dependants, but the Country People are invited, and converted, and have such Encouragement and Temptations to change their Religion, and

H

that

that they cannot withstand it; and I leave any one to judge, if we give up our Religion, the Government and present happy Establishment must soon be destroyed. Then let the Clergy without Rancour (which most religious Disputes are attended with) exert themselves; let them take Pains to inform the Ignorant of their Tenets, and the Articles of their Faith and Religion; let them visit the Sick, and not (as I know some do) ride like a Post-Boy on the Spur of a *Sunday*, to four or five different Churches, and preach a Sermon of ten or twelve Minutes long at each, which has nothing to recommend it but its Shortness.

ANOTHER Benefit would arise, that the Militia (so far from hurting) would be of use to the Army; for the Army might be cheaply and constantly recruited from the Militia; for it is natural to think that some would take Delight in Arms, and especially if Encouragement was given, and Gain was promised on any Expedition being successful. You would have many turn out Volunteers; for the Reason that Marines are more easily

easily raised than Soldiers; the one get Prize Money, and the other Blows and Wounds. And here let me mention one Thing, that in all Counties, *especially maritime Counties*, it might be enacted, that all smuggled Goods taken by the Militia should be their lawful Prize, and this would prevent Smuggling; for though as a Farmer or Labourer, they would join with the Smuggler; *yet as a Militia they would not*, but would be glad to seize any contraband Goods for the Gain thereof.

I REMEMBER in the last War there were seven hundred Men raised in *Sussex*, clothed and paid, and some of them were sent on the Sea Coast; the Smugglers were immediately alarmed, and tried to find out what Orders were given about them in particular, but could not find it out; at last, they sent this modest Request (by a very substantial Farmer) to me, *viz.* 'If I had any Orders to disturb them.' I told the Farmer, it required some Consideration to give an Answer, but that I had Orders from the Secretary of State and the Lord Lieutenant, to ex-

amine all Ships, Vessels and Boats, and if they chose to run the Risque, they must take the Consequence.

THE Farmer faithfully reported this, and they never landed any Goods near me.

To prevent Smuggling by the regular Forces is impossible. And I do appeal to all the Officers of Dragoons and Foot if it is practicable; and (if I chose) I could give very good Reasons for my Assertions. There has been little taken for fifteen Years by the Military Force in *Sussex*, but that was taken more thro' the Folly of the Smugglers themselves, than the Activity of the Custom-house Officers, and without their immediate Assistance, no Officer or Soldier can act.

I MENTION this, because I have heard some in the Army say, they would put an End to it, &c. which is absolutely out of their Power, but ought to be done; it carries away *a thousand Pounds a Week*, in Time of Peace, out of *Sussex* only, and half that Sum in Time of War, ready Money to our Enemies; and farther, it is impossible to loose a Topfail at *Spithead*, but a Cutter immediately

mediately carries the Intelligence to our Enemies, for which they are well paid. And there is another material Sort of Smuggling in *Suffex*, such as sending ready built Ships of the best Timber, to our Enemies, and our Wool, even in Time of War; this a Militia would partly prevent.

I SHALL now conclude the Whole, by saying, there may be some other Objections to a Militia, but a future Parliament might rectify that. No Law ever was at first made without some additional Clause capable to be added to it to amend it, and make it better.

BUT the Law of Nature, the Dictates of Reason, the Cause of Liberty, the Welfare of our Country, all seem to point out, that *Englishmen* should be permitted to defend themselves; and the Establishment of a National Militia seems left to this Time to give Lustre to the Reign of his present Majesty, who does not reign over Slaves, but has the Affection (as will be found, if a Militia is raised) of an obedient, brave, and loyal People.

F I N I S.



